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Volume 27, No. 8, August 1995

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Official publication of Carolina Electric Cooperatives

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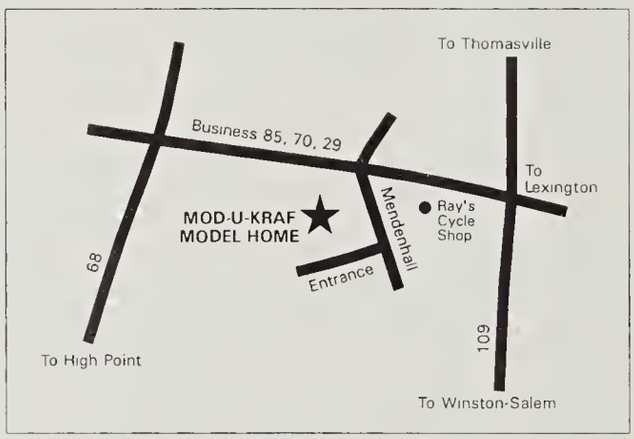

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Read monthly in more than 350,000 homes
Volume 27, No. 8, August 1995

Official Publication
Carolina Electric Cooperatives

Caralina Electric Caaperatives is the netwark af electric caaperative arganizatians that pravides reliable, safe and affordable electric service to 650,000 homes, farms and businesses in North Carolino. At the heart of Caralino Electric Caaperatives are the state's 28 electric caaperatives, each member-awned, not-far-profit and averseen by a baard of directars elected by the membership.

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Carolina Country ® is published by the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperotives, Inc., the trade arganization of Corolino Electric Cooperotives. Secand closs postage poid at Raleigh, N.C., and additianal mailing offices. Editorial offices: P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. Phone: (919) 872-0800. Carolina Country is o registered trademark af the North Corolino Associotion of Electric Caaperatives, Inc.

Postmaster: Send farm 3579 ta P.O. Box 27306, Roleigh, N.C. 27611.

EMC graup subscription, $3.50 a year; individual, $6.00.

To chonge address, send magazine mailing label. Address oll mail to Coralina Cauntry, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh,N.C. 27611.

Printed on recycled paper

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On the Cover

Joey Perdue among the elk she and her husband raise in Watauga County. Photograph by Frederica Georgia.

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Letters and Comments

Our internet address: 75471.2247@ compuserve.com

Thanks to Pee Dee and all the co-ops

I want to say a great BIG Thank You to the Carolina Electric Cooperatives for the excellent service which we have received over the years, in particular from Pee Dee Electric Membership Corporation here in Richmond County.

During the tornadic windstorm on May 13, our home was the only one on this street to have electricity that night and most of the next day . (The other homes are with another electric company.) This is just one of many times over the years when we have had electricity while those around us have been without.

In the late 1960s, when Richmond County had a devastating ice storm, our home alone had electricity. I have never since then fried as many eggs and as much bacon and provided as many warm showers to neighbors! We had one little wire pulled out on the porch, and next morning I saw a Pee Dee Electric serviceman on a pole close to our house and told him about the wire. He was so gracious and came immediately to check this wire and fix it. We had electricity when most of the county was without for days and weeks. This area was practically devastated, but again Pee Dee Electric came to the rescue and went to the farm houses and carried dry ice for freezers to preserve meat and vegetables.

We have been with Pee Dee Electric since we built this house in 1955, and believe me we do not plan to ever change companies!

My parents, Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Rankin, lived in a very rural area of Derby, N.C. and could not get electricity until the late 1940s. Pee Dee Electric came to the rescue of the farmers in this area and brought the wonders of electricity when it had seemed an impossible dream for so many years. My parents have been deceased for many years, but they always had the highest praise for Pee Dee Electric.

This letter is in appreciation for all the Carolina Electric Cooperatives who have so graciously provided service to areas of our state when other companies felt it was too expensive. "Let there be light - and there was light" where there was never light before! Thank you!

Buena Vista Rankin Coggin, Rockingham

Good, simple and quick

I love your magazine, especially the recipes. They are always good, simple and quick. I made the Nacho Pizza (March 1995) and everyone loved it and wanted the recipe. I have been sharing my daughter's magazine, and I would like to have my own. I am sending a check for a year's subscription.

Dollie Grantham, Winston-Salem

Helping husbands

I was sitting here reading the articles in the "Letters" section of your magazine, and I would like to thank you for the delicious recipes that you publish each month. I am referring to the one for January 1995, "World's Best Roast." [See also "Comments," June 1995.] I tried the recipe numerous times, and my husband thinks it is the best he has ever tasted. I cooked it covered on 200 degrees for 8 to 10 hours.

Louise K. Whaley, Pink Hill

Helping dogs

We received a wonderful response from your fall mention of our cookbook, "Doggone Good Cookin.'" We have almost sold out of the second printing. Thank you for all that you do to help our area.

Dot Fish, Watauga Humane Society

Southern recipes

Martha Tucker reports that her cookbook, "Memories Are Made of This," was very popular among Carolina Country readers. The book has 350 "good Southern recipes." She is interested in hearing from people who may want a copy. Contact Martha Tucker, P.O. Box 10, High Shoals, N.C. 28077-0010.

Seeds received

Thank you for publishing my letter looking for vegetable potato seeds. I had about 25 replies, most of them containing seeds. My thanks go out to all the people who responded.

We are proud to be members of the Pitt & Greene EMC. They always provide us with good service.

L.O. Beddard, Snow Hill

Helping travelers

The May issue of Carolina Country featuring the theme "See North Carolina" was very well received by our travelers. They enjoyed the many colorful photographs and listings of special events in our state. I appreciate your extra bulk shipments of this excellent publication through October.

Penny Leary-Smith, directo
Dismal Swamp Canal Welcome Cente

What Do You Think?

Send us a letter, E-mail or fax about our articles or the good work of your electric cooperative. We will publish what space allows. Messages should be brief and must include your name and telephone number (for our verification only). All are subject to editing. Our address is Carolina Country, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. The fax number is (919) 878-3970.

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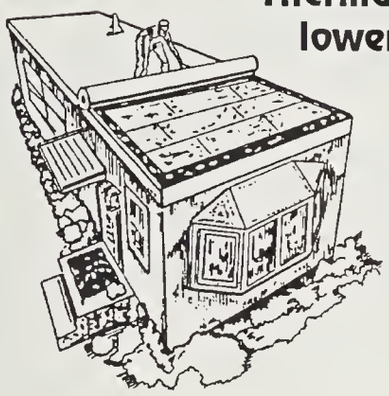

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Decoration Day is one mountain tradition that hasn't been diluted or deleted by modern living.

Decoration Day

Story and photos by Regina Hill

When Granny first invited me to attend Decoration Day, I thought of Grandpa's funeral and all the grief involved with death. But later I agreed to join my family at the Bee Log cemetery and participate in what I knew was an annual custom of ours.

As we placed floral arrangements around the headstones and began to talk with other people who had come to "pay respects," I realized that Decoration Day wasn't anything like a funeral.

"Pa would love this," I whispered to Mama. We remembered how my grandfather loved to gather and talk with others, to laugh and "carry on." I noticed the men around us standing in groups, sharing tales and jokes just like Pa had, and I smiled. Men from the mountains, I thought, need this kind of fellowship.

Glancing across the yard, we could see every imaginable color of flower bursting near virtually every headstone —bouquets, silk arrangements, vases filled with cut or dried flowers. Few graves were bare of floral creations, even those dating back 100 years or more.

Some sad graves had only a flat stone at the head and one at the foot. No name, no date, no telling the age of the dead. Only a stone marker dignified their passing from this life.

The mountains we could see all around this Yancey County hillside seemed to embrace our small yard, protecting the ones who rested here.

My little cousin, D.J. Hall, at the headstone of her great-great-grandparents, Ernest and Lucy King McIntosh.

Here we are visiting and decorating Grandpa's grave.

Mama pointed to headstones and told me about the people buried under them. "This is the man I told you about," she said. He died in a car accident when you were only two. And that's my best friend's mother. This is your great-aunt. No, you didn't know her."

Granny, Mama and I turned from the graves and began talking with people.

"Why, you're Edith's granddaughter," a grinning woman said to me, patting my arm and shaking her head. "I can remember when you weren't no bigger than nothing."

"Well, Edith," an elderly man said to Granny. "Have you told Gina about the time you beat up that old boy for picking on your little brother?"

This was far different than a funeral. We all shared a common link. We were from the mountains, and we were carrying on a mountain tradition that dated back generations.

Mountain people have hundreds of customs, traditions and superstitions. Some might seem eccentric, others warm and gentle. All remind us of our roots, our ancestry, our mountain heritage.

As a native of Appalachia, born to a simple mountain background in western North Carolina, I have come to love the simplicity, the serenity and the joy these mountains inspire.

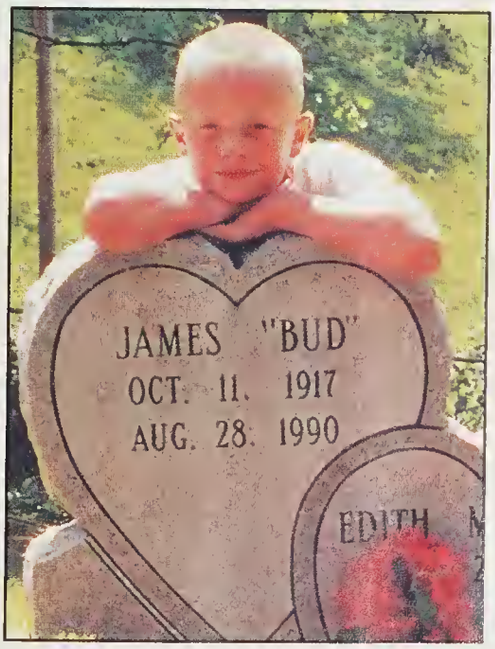
During my growing-up years, Appalachian tradition meant little to me. The ideas and customs that shaped my elders' lives were mere oddities to me. But gradually I understood they, too, were part of mountain beauty.

Such customs as quilting bees and barn raisins' are memories now, shared only through my Granny's vivid recollections. But Decoration Day is one mountain tradition that hasn't been muted or deleted by modern living.

The tradition began as a necessity. In the early years of Appalachia, when someone passed on, friends and family would gather around the body, sing hymns, talk, and "sit up" all night long. "Sitting up" was a common courtesy. People stayed with the body, waiting for the spirit to leave the deceased.

Because embalming or anything of that nature was taboo in those days, the dead body by some physical impulse would sometimes sit up on its own. You can imagine how that could spook many mountain people, or anyone else.

Lacking funeral parlors, relatives of the deceased washed, dressed, "laid out" and buried the dead body. If you've seen the movie "The Winter People," you'll recall the scene inside the log home where the family sat up together.



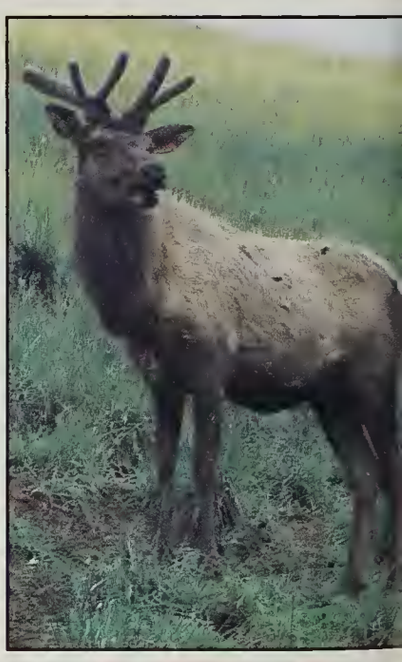
Bud Arrowood was Michael Arrowood's Grandpa as well as mine.

During winter, a mountain funeral service could be pretty dull. Preachers seldom traveled into remote areas to perform a sermon, and there were no flowers. So when spring arrived and everyone could get out again, families who had buried their dead during the winter would have a Decoration Day. They put flowers on graves, heard a sermon, and spread a picnic at the graveyard.

Since that time, Decoration Day has been an annual event for most of Appalachia. Some graveyards decorate during spring, some in summer, others in the fall. The date is purely a choice of the cemetery association.

Enjoying the experience as I did that day on the hillside where my Grandpa rests gave me a lesson in Appalachia's heritage that can't be learned through history books. The warmth of reminiscing, the gentle words of hope, the renewed faith in the human spirit are all parts of Decoration Day that you can't explain without being there. As I walked the dusty gravel road toward home with Granny and Mama, I felt I had received a gift.

A native of Burnsville, Regina Hill enjoys the country way of writing, riding horses, hiking, canning, quilting and gardening. She and her husband are members of French Broad Electric Membership Corporation.



Pete and Joey Perdue love the setting of their Watauga County elk farm. They say it's good country for elk, such as the male in the bull pen shown in the photo at right.

Feeding time in the cow pen at Beaverhorn elk farm. The cows were shedding in spring. The elk in the photo at left seemed more curious than annoyed with the camera.

Photos from Beaverhorn Farm

By Frederica Georgia

Here are the photos from the Beaverhorn Elk Farm. Pete and Joey have a beautiful place, and they were very fun to work with, even if they were a little worried I might get stomped on! The elk are at a funny-looking stage this time of year —half furry, half shedded out.

Most of the photos were done in the cow pasture. Once the yearlings are weaned, they're taken to a separate pasture and eventually the bulls are put into their own space. They're curious animals, coming close enough to sniff but not really wanting to be touched. Pete tells me they are very strong and tend to rear up and strike out with their hooves when threatened. Fortunately they were feeling friendly when I showed up.

I did do some bull photos with their fuzzy new antler growth. The bulls tend to be a bit more aloof than the cows.

Frederica Georgia

Pete Perdue and his wife, Joey, live part of the year on their Beaverhorn Farm, near Vilas, where they raise elk and enjoy the magnificent mountain countryside of Watauga County. The elk are larger than deer, though not as large as moose. They once named the North Carolina mountains. Photographer Frederica Georgia, who also lives in Vilas, visited Beaverhorn Farm this spring.

Frederica Georgia is a freelance photographer who recently returned to live in the Boone area. Formerly a Southern Living staff photographer, she has traveled throughout the world to shoot pictures.

After a big storm, when many lives are upset...

...electric co-op crews restore power.

Many hands make lights work

By Kim Whorton

Have we had a lot of big storms lately or what? Blizzards, ice storms, tornadoes, hurricanes. The one in March 1993 was called "The Storm of the Century." And here we are in a hurricane season that some say could bring one or two of those big-name storms to remember.

Among the first people to go out after a major storm are electric utility line crews. We all have seen them out there. It's not an easy job. Some times they work through the night to restore power to our homes and businesses.

As a member of a North Carolina electric cooperative, you should know that when the forces of nature cause power outages, your co-op does not respond with red tape or grabs for glory. You will find dedicated, hardworking and talented people with one common goal: to restore power as quickly and safely as possible.

After a hurricane in eastern North Carolina.

Do you ever wonder why your power usually is restored before customers of other utilities see their lights go on?

Quick response in an emergency is no accident. It's a finely tuned, closely planned process. The network of Carolina Electric Cooperatives —composed of 28 locally-owned co-ops across the state and three corporations which make up the state offices in Raleigh— is the only electric utility serving 95 of the state's 100 counties. No other electric utility serves a larger geographic area. Such an extensive network allows a cooperative to call on the resources and expertise of its neighboring co-ops and the state office in Raleigh to restore power as quickly as possible to customers in an emergency.

Each cooperative has its own emergency work plan to follow during a major power outage. Once an outage occurs, co-op management must first evaluate the extent of the damage. Often, damages can be repaired by the co-op's own crews, or jointly with the help of local independent contract crews.

Using new technology

As technology improves so do the methods co-ops employ for responding to emergencies. Jones-Onslow EMC in Jacksonville and Union EMC in Monroe each recently installed electronic models of their electrical systems. These electronic systems are equipped with software programs that collect pertinent information relating to the power outage. The co-ops can produce an individual customer outage analysis to focus on persistent problems. Jones-Onslow's system is also equipped with a 10-by-10-foot system map that illuminates the origin of the trouble calls so employees can see immediately where the trouble lies.

Tommy Pritchard, vice president of engineering and operations for Jones-Onslow EMC, says, "As the trouble calls are received, we get a visual representation of our service territory and where the problems are occurring, which is a big help in determining the cause of the outages."

TEMA coordinates dispatching

All 28 co-ops also are part of a statewide emergency work plan coordinated by the Tarheel Electric Membership Association (TEMA), the material supply organization of the Carolina Electric Cooperative

network. When cooperatives need help, TEMA serves as a central location for communication and coordination of dispatching crews and equipment to systems that need help the most. If more help is needed, TEMA can also pull crews from neighboring states.

"TEMA provides what you need, in the way of equipment or crews, when you need it," says Joseph Joplin, manager of operations and assistant to the general manager for Rutherford EMC in Forest City. "TEMA has never failed us."

It's not unusual for crews from across the Southeast to come together to help. Crews from Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia have traveled to North Carolina to lend a hand more than once.

And North Carolinians are quick to return the favor. Although North Carolina also suffered through the infamous "Blizzard of '93," co-op territory in parts of Mississippi, Virginia and Tennessee sustained major damages. Seventeen of North Carolina's 28 cooperatives sent crews to the major disaster areas in those three states, some crews staying as long as three weeks.

"We always try to respond when we get a request to send crews," says Joplin. "Because we get help when we need it, and it's a two-way street. We want to go the extra mile for them just like they would for us."

Teamwork and cooperation form the foundation for quick response to crisis situations in any co-op territory.

Hurricane help

When Hurricane Hugo swept through the piedmont region of the state in 1989, Union EMC's system was hit hard. "At one point, we had our entire electrical system down," said Philip L. Wally, manager of Union EMC in Monroe. "We had more than 500 people working to restore power at one time — receiving work crews from 13 EMCs and about 14 independent contractors."

When Hurricane Emily swept through the Outer Banks in August 1993, co-ops across the state responded. TEMA coordinated line crews from Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative, Tideland EMC, Jones-Onslow EMC, Roanoke Electric Cooperative, Randolph EMC, Pitt & Greene EMC and Edgecombe-Martin County EMC to assist Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative. Member Services personnel from Randolph EMC and Tideland EMC traveled to the co-op's flooded office in Buxton to help with clean-up operations and to answer calls through the night from work crews and concerned members. "The people who work inside get tired after 20 hours, too," said Dave Rowe of Randolph EMC, who came from Asheboro to help at Buxton.

Back in Raleigh, employees of the state office staffed the state Emergency Operations Center in downtown Raleigh for nearly 40 hours. The staff dispatched help to the island, fielded media and citizens' inquiries, and worked with the National Guard, the Highway Patrol and other agencies to coordinate relief efforts. As crews worked around the clock to restore power, diesel generators owned by the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, the power supply division of the Carolina Electric Cooperatives network, provided emergency power to the islands. With the combined resources of cooperatives across the state, Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative was able to restore service to the island in a timely manner.

Helping each other after the storm.

Delivering information

In a major crisis, the efforts of all employees are necessary. While the most important goal, always, is to restore service to members, communication with members and the media is a key factor in coping with a crisis situation.

Co-ops recognize the need for good communication. A crisis communications plan, crafted by employees of the state office, has been distributed to each cooperative in the state. The plan is designed to help guide management in coping effectively with crisis situations that could cause confusion, misunderstanding and damage to North Carolina's electric cooperatives and the public at large. The plan also includes services provided by the state office should the co-ops need additional assistance.

The state office of Carolina Electric Cooperatives also has its own plan, similar to a co-op's plan, for crisis situations which require the assistance of the state office.

"We update the plan regularly, and plan to conduct mock drills that will help us test and refine it," said Jane Pritchard, director of media and community relations for the state office.

Maggie Tilley, public information director for Blue Ridge Electric in Lenoir, knows the value of keeping members informed during a power outage. Over the past few winters, co-ops in the western part of the state have been battered by severe ice storms.

In 1994, Blue Ridge Electric won an award of merit from the Council of Rural Electric Communicators (CREC), for its outstanding communications work throughout the "Blizzard of 1993." The co-op was commended for keeping the news media and public informed of power restoration efforts before, during and after the blizzard.

No one can control the weather, nor can they really predict it. But North Carolina's electric cooperatives are prepared to deal with it promptly and effectively to the benefit of members across the state.

"We know how much people rely on electricity," says Joseph Joplin at Rutherford EMC. "In an emergency situation our crews go into around-the-clock operation. Our members want to see us working, and we want to see the lights come on."

Next in the series on "The Business of Electric Cooperatives:" The cooperative way of doing business.

Firsthand look: *Mount Olive student Amber Barfield (top) watches a dental assistant at work fro a different perspectiv At left, students (left to right) Travis Blackmore, Daimein Simpson and Matt Crawford learn abou electric utilities from Don Keen.*

Students see real jobs

Story and photos by Lynn Pearsall Williams

Student Leroy Murchison samples the cab of a Mt. Olive Pickle Co. truck with the company's traffic supervisor Mike Rackley.

Young teenagers may want to grow up to be cowboys, basketball players or politicians until they go into the work world and see something they like better.

Students at Mount Olive Middle School last spring ventured into the work world to see firsthand what it's like out there. The experience was funded by a Bright Ideas grant from Tri-County Electric Membership Corporation and Carolina Electric Cooperatives.

Daimein Simpson, Matt Crawford and Travis Blackmore watched Tri-County EMC linemen Jimmy Thompson and Pete Jones replace a blown transformer with a new one. They also learned a good bit more about the workings of an electric utility, from billing to records keeping to handling calls for repairs — and how computers play a huge role in all of that.

"If you work outside or inside, you use those," Tri-County's Kevin Roberts said when the students visited the co-op's Dudley office. "Our engineer often takes a computer with him. We use computers in here to look up accounts and do other kinds of work."

BRIGHT IDEAS

The tour was all in a day's work for these Mour Olive Middle School students as they participa ed in the "shadowing" program funded by th Bright Ideas program.

In all, 98 eighth graders spent a da with health care professionals, journa ists, lawyers, tradespeople, law enforc ment officers, recreation leaders an business people.

"The kids were shocked at how muc education these people had," said Debb Grady, a Mount Olive school counselc "Some of them realized that no, mayb this electrician didn't have a four-ye college degree, but he had a lot of trai ing and it took a lot of math and rea ing to do his job. They are really beginnir to relate what they are doing now wi what is going on in the future."

And that is the key.

"Kids' expectations are so unreali tic," said Chris Martin, personnel dire tor of the Mount Olive Pickle Company. "All t girls want to be pediatricians because they li babies, but they don't like science because it's ick Half the boys want to be professional basketb players."

The shadowing program, she said, "gets kids out of the classroom for a day and lets them see what the work world is like."

Giving children a truer perspective of the work world sometimes offered hard lessons. One student interested in physical therapy fainted at the sight of blood. Another was convinced he wanted to run a recreation department, but was disappointed to realize a recreation director spends most of his day indoors.

Leroy Murchison has a love for 18-wheelers. He spent his day at Mt. Olive Pickle, watching how the big green trucks are loaded and unloaded, learning about the drivers' schedules, riding along to a nearby warehouse. "I don't want to leave," he said afterward.

For Amber Barfield, watching Mount Olive dentist Ray Mooring and his staff work all day gave her a new perspective, one from outside of the dentist's chair: "I've never actually watched them do it. As a patient, it's different."

Mount Olive Middle's guidance and vocational departments spent months laying the groundwork for the shadowing day, as well as for what will be a continuing program year after year. Working together, the two departments outlined an interdisciplinary curriculum for grades six, seven and eight that looks at career awareness and career education.

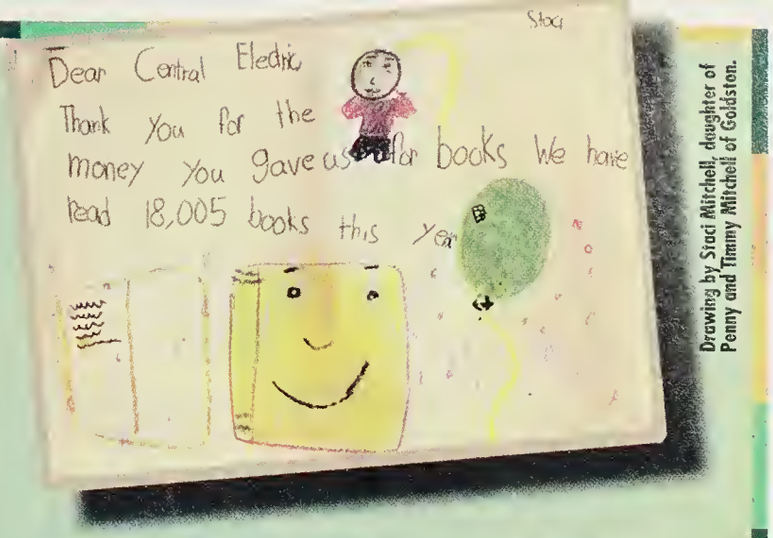
"We decided we were just really going to work hard to expose these children to careers they were interested in," Grady said.

The grant money, then, was spent on purchasing interest inventories and making a substantial start on a video library. The videos show lessons ranging from improving grades and study skills to why English courses are needed to prepare for the business world. Other components of the "Planning for a Career" program include a career technology fair and a parent workshop, designed to help parents develop an academic plan for their rising high school students.

The hero in the shadowing program was the local business community. A committee of area business people, including Tri-County's Kevin Roberts and Mt. Olive Pickle's Chris Martin, worked with Debbie Grady in finding mentors for each of the 98 eighth graders. The students were placed in businesses throughout Mount Olive, Goldsboro, neighboring Duplin County and the greater Wayne County area. The Southern Wayne Business and Professional Women's Club provided transportation for students whose mentors could not pick them up.

"It cost the businesses some time," Grady said. "But that's the best influence they can have right now. Sometimes that's harder to give than money. I think after they've done it, they realize it's a benefit to the kids. They inspired some of them, and motivated some of the children to take courses they wouldn't otherwise have taken. You don't realize how much influence they really digest in a day. I felt it was a wonderful experience."

Lynn Pearsall Williams is a freelance writer in Mount Olive.



Drawing by Staci Mitchell, daughter of Penny and Timmy Mitchell of Goldston.

Other Bright Ideas from 1994-95

Helen Rogers' K-1 class at Bonlee Elementary in Chatham County benefited from a reading enrichment program entitled "Look, Mom, I Can Read." It was funded by Central Electric Membership Corporation. Students sent notes to Central EMC saying, "Thank you for the money you gave us for books. We have read 18,005 books this year."

Robin H. Smathers, a music teacher serving both Weaverville Primary School and Weaverville Elementary School in Buncombe County, was awarded a grant for "Bringing Culture and Children's Literature Alive through Music and Movement." Bright Ideas funding came from Carolina Electric Cooperatives.

Smathers wrote later, "Yesterday Weaverville Elementary experienced some real excitement. A delivery man brought handtruck after handtruck load full of BIG boxes, which filled the corners of the secretary's and principal's offices. These boxes contained the shipment of new musical instruments our students will enjoy thanks to the generosity of your grant program."

She combined the $2,000 grant with $700 the fifth grade raised through performances of "The Music Man" and negotiated to buy more instruments than she'd planned on. "For a music teacher who traditionally receives only $200 in allotments per year," she wrote, "this was indeed a dream come true!"

Bright Ideas Grants: Round II

Sponsored by Carolina Electric Cooperatives and local electric cooperatives, the Bright Ideas Grant Program was initiated last year to provide funds for innovative instructional projects that North Carolina's public schools could not otherwise afford. Grants totaling $241,000 were awarded for 342 projects across the state. Those projects were selected in a competitive evaluation from among 1,100 submitted.

Bright Ideas will fund a second round of projects in the 1995-96 school year. Application forms will be distributed to all North Carolina public schools during August. The program is open to public school teachers and principals serving grades K-12. Applications will be due in October 1995. Awards will be announced in November.

For more information, write to Bright Ideas Grant Program, Carolina Electric Cooperatives, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC. 27611-7306. Or call toll-free: 800 662-8835, Ext. 299.

THERE'S ANOTHER WAY TO PITCH IN THAT'S EASIER THAN RINSING BOTTLES, CRUSHING CANS AND TYING UP NEWSPAPERS.

Signing up for Peak Load Management is quite a bit easier than recycling. But it's probably the most important thing you'll ever do for the environment. And all it takes is a call to your electric co-op.

During peak demand for electricity, we'll interrupt power to your central air

conditioner or heat pump and electric water heater, for brief periods. You won't be inconvenienced.

In fact, you probably won't even know when it happens. (Just ask your friends who are already on the program.)

By managing peak demand, we can lessen the need for expensive power plants and help conserve our natural resources.

If you're concerned about the environment, this is real easy. So please give us a call.

PEAK LOAD MANAGEMENT. ANOTHER WAY TO PITCH IN.

CAROLINA Electric Cooperatives

An Important Announcement for North Carolina Homeowners With Equity . . .

What would you do with an extra $300 to $1000 per month?

How to Get a Fast Mortgage Loan to Pay Off All Your Bills***

(Even if You've Been Turned Down by a Bank or Mortgage Company)

Franklin, North Carolina - Ray and Becky were frustrated. They'd bought the house 12 years ago and it was 5 years old when they moved in. Becky laughed out loud when she thought back to that time. Back then it seemed so big and beautiful. But now, 12 years and 3 kids later the house felt small and run down. The house needed a new roof and her two youngest girls, Emily and Katie, were doubling up in the small 10 by 12 bedroom.

Five years ago, Ray and Becky had a contractor come and talk to them about a new addition. Becky remembered how excited she and Ray both were. They even paid to have the plans drawn up. But that was a year before Ray lost his job at the plant. She poured herself another cup of coffee and recalled how depressed they both were. It was over a year before he got another job. And during that time they got behind on everything.

No Easter Dresses

They were so strapped for money in spring, they couldn't even afford new dresses for Emily and Katie for Easter. Sure they finally caught it all up when Ray went back to work, but it took them two years and by that time it had hurt their previously perfect credit record, it was a vicious cycle. You know, getting paid on Friday, sitting down on Saturday to pay bills and running out of money before all the bills were paid.

"I Hit A Brick Wall!"

After they got all caught up they tried again to borrow the money for the addition. First they got turned down by the local bank then a mortgage company in town rejected them. They just kept hitting the same brick wall. Even though Ray had gone back to work in another carpet mill making MORE money, the late payments that showed up on his credit reports scared the local banks and mortgage companies away. Ray felt like he was working JUST to pay his monthly bills and doing nothing for himself or Becky and the kids. Then he ran into Harvest Mortgage Company. Harvest helped him get a loan to pay off all his bills and consolidate everything into one single payment that was $358 lower than he had been making. That saved him a whopping $4296 per year TAX FREE. In the first year, that was enough money to close in the back porch AND enough left over for new bikes for the kids.

***Subject to Qualification*

Harvest Can Get Loans From Loan Sources You Don't Even Know Exist!

> "When we needed money to consolidate our debts and pay off some old bills, Harvest Mortgage was there when we needed them. We ended up paying off all our bills and rolling them all into one single payment. After we did, our total monthly payments dropped by almost $400 per month. This has reduced our stress which has made our lives much better."
>
> *Billy and Judy S.*
> *Columbus*

Recent Loans Include:

- ✔ A $78,000 loan to a couple in Sugar Grove, North Carolina that saved them $800 per month in payments. They will save over $29,000 in the next 3 years.
- ✔ A $95,000 loan to a homeowner in Western North Carolina who was on permanent disability .
- ✔ A $35,000 loan to a homeowner near Savannah to complete construction of his home (The borrower couldn't verify his income with tax returns.)
- ✔ A $95,000 loan that consolidated the homeowner's mortgage and all the rest of his bills into one monthly payment that saved him over $8,100 per year and a whopping $124,000 over the loan period.

Home Equity Is the Key

Harvest officials report that the single most important key to their ability to find a loan is whether or not you have enough equity in the property. "Say you have a home valued at $80,000 with no more than $48,000 in total mortgage, including any 1st and 2nd mortgages. Then you are a good candidate for one of the many loan programs we offer," says Senior Loan officer Janet Kivi in an interview last week. "In other words, "says Hughes," if you have a minimum of 20% equity or more there's a good chance we can help you either save a lot of money every month by combining old bills and your old mortgage into one newer and much lower payment. Or we can help you get cash money out of your home or investment property to use to buy a vacation house, start a business, whatever."

No Ivory Towers

"When you apply for a loan at Harvest Mortgage, your loan request is reviewed and decided upon by the people right in our offices," says one Harvest executive. He added, "Since we are direct lenders, we don't send the information to some guys off somewhere in New York or California. We review and approve loans right here in town locally."

Fast Approval and Closing

That means we an get your loan closed in a matter of days, and you never have to go out of your living room until you're ready to close."

Loans for Purchase or Refinance

Harvest Mortgage officials report that whether you are buying or refinancing a house, or just looking to consolidate some bills or get cash of your property, they have credited programs give you the money you're looking for.
Different loan programs include:

- ✔ Loans to Borrowers with good credit with most competitive rates in the country. These are available for purchasing a new home or refinancing.
- ✔ Loans to borrowers with a lot of equity homeowners who have slow credit or have even been bankrupt.
- ✔ Cash out loans for investment property with a lot of equity.
- ✔ Loans for borrowers who want to do additions or remodel their homes.

Check This Out for Free

To see how much money you may be able to get and exactly how much your payments would be, you can check it out by just picking up the phone and calling us. Be sure to ask for Mike George at **1-800-972-LEND (5363)**. Or for a FREE report on how Harvest Mortgage can work for you, call toll-free **1-800-876-3406** for a 24-hour recorded message. All of this doesn't cost you a dime, so you owe it to yourself to find out for yourself. Don't put this off. Do it now while you're thinking about it! You've got nothing to lose and every thing to gain!

Harvest Mortgage Company Inc.
Mortgage Bankers
Georgia Residential Licensee

1-800-972-LEND
(5363)

Focus

North Carolina news you can use.

Martin County gains regional agriculture center

The N.C. Department of Agriculture staged a ground-breaking ceremony in June for a $7.3 million Eastern North Carolina Agricultural Center in Martin County. The facility will feature a 2,000-seat indoor arena, a campground for recreational vehicles, hundreds of horse stables, a covered arena and outdoor warm-up rings.

State Agriculture Commissioner Jim Graham said the center on a 160-acre site is appropriately located in Martin County, where Martin County Community College has an outstanding equine curriculum. The facility is intended to serve the entire region.

"Angel Food & Deviled Crab" for sale

Ann Street United Methodist Church of Beaufort has published a book of almost 800 local recipes that reflect the character and flavor of the 284-year-old seaside community. Proceeds from its sale will help the church with its mission and the renovation of its 1854 sanctuary.

"Angel Food & Deviled Crab" includes 15 illustrations showing local historic homes and the two Methodist sanctuary buildings. There is also a "quantity cooking" section with recipes for serving large crowds.

The book has a double wire-O binding so it will lay flat. Its format is horizontal, with type reading from the spine down and ingredients listed on the left.

Mail order copies cost $18.65 in North Carolina and $17.75 to out-of-state addresses. Prices include tax and shipping. Make checks payable to Ann Street United Methodist Church, (Attn. Fran Krautheim), P.O. Drawer C, Beaufort, NC 28516.

Duplin County has a cabaret

Duplin Winery in Rose Hill has opened a Friday-Saturday variety show series that will play monthly through December.

Directed by Duke Ladd of Wilmington, the series in the winery's new theater will be a cabaret style musical revue and comedy. The August program plays Aug. 18-19. Deluxe admission is $21, general admission $12.50.

For more information and a schedule, contact Duplin Winery, P.O. Box 756, Rose Hill, NC 28458. Phone: (910) 289-3888.

Eight 4-H students receive national awards

North Carolina 4-H members won eight of 35 national scholarships recently awarded by the National 4-H Council. Four students won $1,500 awards and four won $1,000 scholarships.

The students must have completed one semester of college work with a 2.0 or better average and demonstrated expertise in their chosen subject, civic responsibility and community service.

The $1,500 winners are Shelley Alicia McLain of Asheboro, Julia Ruth Parker of Columbia, Tammy Hern Sutton of LaGrange and Craig Dewayne Williams of Trenton.

The $1,000 winners were Johnnie Howard Cox Jr. of Trenton, Kristine Josephine Lang of Harkers Island, Daniel Bryant Turnage Jr. of Trenton and Charles Fleming Wade Jr. of Kinston.

Summer "Mailboat" carries big cargo

A large load of Down East memories, essays, photographs, clippings and stories will appear in a special summer edition of "The Mailboat" published by Coastlore in Harkers Island.

"The Mailboat" is entering its fifth year of publishing the lore and legends of coastal North Carolina. The coming issue will combine editions of Fall '94, Winter '95, Spring '95 and Summer '95. Articles include research from the Ebenezer Harker family, Navy bases at Cape Lookout during World War II, oral history reports, Ivey Scott's music traditions and other neighborhood stories.

Subscriptions to the quarterly publication are $17 per year. Contact The Mailboat, P.O. Box 3, Harkers Island, NC 28531. Or call the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum at (919) 728-1500.

Wanted: historic preservation ideas

The state's Historic Preservation Office seeks comments on its programs and priorities for the coming year. Grants administrator Lloyd Childers says the office wants to hear about "the major threats to historic properties in your community, what kinds of projects you think most deserve grant monies and how we can best serve North Carolina."

Comments are due Sept. 30. For more information and a comments form, contact Lloyd Childers at (919) 733-4763 or the Historic Preservation Office, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2807.

Bob Timberlake art turns 25

Fans of Bob Timberlake's art may be interested in a special poster issued this year to mark the 25th year that the Lexington resident has worked as a professional artist. The 21-by-32-inch poster showing his "August Colors" painting is available for $15 plus $5 shipping and 6 percent state sales tax from The Bob Timberlake Gallery, 101 West Third Avenue, Lexington, NC 27292. Phone (800) 244-0095.

Also, a new annual publication depicts scenes of the artist's own surroundings, plus glimpses of the architecture and interior design of North and South Carolina's most distinguished homes. Carolina Architecture & Design is a "coffee-table quality" magazine containing photography and narratives of the homes, families and artisans involved. The current edition is available for $8 (shipping included). Reservations of the 1995 edition are available for $10. Contact Carolina Architecture & Design, 536 Hardee Road, Coral Gables, FL 33146-9916.

Barrier island education for school groups

"Sound to Sea" is an environmental education program designed to introduce students and teachers to the variety of nature typical of a North Carolina barrier island.

The program is sponsored by Trinity Center, the camp and conference center of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina. It operates from Salter Path and runs the residential program on 62 acres on Bogue Banks west of Atlantic Beach. Students learn about salt marsh, sound, beach, ocean, freshwater ponds and maritime forest. Also offered is a low ropes challenge course.

Students and chaperones join a 3-day, 2-night educational adventure. They stay in dormitories on Bogue Sound, near a central pavilion available for group activities, study and a health center.

Harkers Island students last year participated in the program through a Bright Ideas grant given by Carolina Electric Cooperatives.

For information about "Sound to Sea," contact Trinity Center, P.O. Drawer 380, Salter Path, NC 28575. Phone: (919) 247-5600.

Roanoke-Chowan deer hunt to benefit Chowan College science program

Chowan College students, the state wildlife commission, deer hunters and landowners are joining in a combined research and deer hunting program in northeastern North Carolina this fall.

The special "management hunt" will occur Oct. 27-28 in the Roanoke-Chowan area on more than 20,000 acres opened by regional landowners.

Landowners or their agents will guide selected hunters, who may use bow and arrow, black powder or modern firearms and may choose stand or still hunting. No dogs will be run.

Biology and ecology students at Chowan College in Murfreesboro will assist the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission District 1 staff in collecting information about the local deer herd. The students also will learn about how to gather data such as a deer's age, body fat content and reproductive rate. The data will be used in considering hunting season dates and territorial bag limits.

The $200 entry fee includes trespass fees, liability insurance, guide service, an opening luncheon and a closing awards banquet. Proceeds will supplement the Chowan College Department of Science budget.

For more information and an application, contact the Chowan Management Hunt for Science, Attn: Clayton Lewis, P.O. Box 1848, Murfreesboro, NC 27855. (919) 398-4101, ext. 279.

Southern States picked for environmental stewardship

The Wilson Service facility of the Southern States Cooperative recently won the Environmental Respect Award given by Dealer Progress magazine and DuPont Agricultural Products.

Southern States' Wilson Service was one of 23 farm suppliers recognized nationwide for its environmental stewardship. The retailer was cited for its preparations for preventing chemical or fertilizer contamination and its involvement with local emergency personnel.

Question:

What do aluminum cans and trash cans have in common?

The state law against disposing of aluminum cans turned one year old this summer. Do you know what it regulates? Here are some answers, given by the North Carolina Office of Waste Reduction.

Why ban aluminum cans from disposal in the first place?

Aluminum beverage cans are an obvious material to keep out of the incinerators and landfills for two very good reasons. First, aluminum is a valuable commodity; and second, because of an extensive system for aluminum recycling in North Carolina, it is easy to recycle. All solid waste generators, in all settings, must take responsibility to do their part to meet by the year 2001 the 40 percent solid waste reduction goal established by the 1989 Solid Waste Management Improvement Act.

Are aluminum cans banned from use or just from disposal?

Aluminum cans are not banned from use. The law only bans them from being thrown in the trash. In fact, they are a good environmental choice because of their "recyclability."

If I forget and throw an aluminum can into the trash, will I personally get fined? Will my company be fined?

No. While you are wasting a reusable resource (and energy) if you throw an aluminum can away, you nor your company is in violation of this law. A provision in the law states: "The accidental or occasional disposal of small amounts of prohibited solid waste by landfill or incineration shall not be construed as a violation of subsections (f) or (f1) of this section." In other words, a misplaced aluminum can here and there is not a violation . However, disposing aluminum cans at a landfill or in a solid waste incinerator in significant quantities and with no regard to the law is a violation and is subject to a penalty of up to $5,000 per occurrence.

How is the new aluminum can disposal ban enforced?

The Division of Solid Waste Management in the North Carolina Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources is responsible for enforcing this law. The division informed solid waste landfill and incinerator operators/owners, as well as solid waste transporters, that it intends to monitor for compliance. Since the law is enforced at the point of disposal, not at the point of generation, disposal facility operators are responsible for assuring that solid waste loads do not contain aluminum cans, except in small amounts as described above.

Answer:

Nothing!

Does this mean that my work place has to spend a lot of time and money setting up an aluminum can recycling program?

No. Recycling programs can be elaborate, but they can also be very simple. Already, 60 percent of aluminum cans are being recycled. One option is to find some inexpensive (or free) containers and gain support from fellow employees to volunteer to collect the cans. Another option is to rent containers. Yet another option is to contract with commercial garbage haulers to assure compliance with this law. However, because aluminum cans are highly marketable, many businesses and institutions choose to collect and market aluminum cans themselves.

Why not just get rid of aluminum cans altogether at our work place so we don't have to worry about recycling them?

Eliminating aluminum cans from use and using another type of container will not help us solve our solid waste problems. One way we can help reach North Carolina's 40 percent waste reduction goal is to take advantage of the recyclability of aluminum and recycle aluminum cans as much as possible. While a similar law does not exist for plastic or glass beverage containers, all beverage containers should be recycled.

How much is aluminum worth?

Recycled aluminum cans generally bring from 30 to 45 cents per pound [1994 market value]. Approximately 35 cans will make one pound. Prices will vary according to geographic locations in the state and how the cans are processed and marketed. Net program cost is based on the costs associated with the program versus the revenue received from the sale of the material.

Who can help with details about our aluminum can recycling program?

Your local government recycling coordinator, Keep America Beautiful program, local Cooperative Extension Service, private waste haulers, or recycling processors (often listed in the Yellow Pages) can provide information. The Office of Waste Reduction can also provide assistance with setting up a program and locating markets for collected aluminum. The office publishes a Directory of Recycling Markets in North Carolina and other materials. Call OWR toll-free at (800) 763-0136 or (919) 571-4100. The Division of Solid Waste Management at (919) 733-0692 can provide information about the regulatory aspects of the law.

Making Cents of Your Electric Bill

by James Dulley

lot water n demand.

Q: I let the water run for over a minute just to get hot water from one bathroom faucet. This wastes my time, water and energy to heat it. Are there any do-it-yourself kits to get hot water faster?–T.W.

A:In the typical U.S. home, more than 9,000 gallons of water are wasted down the drain each year while waiting for hot water. In addition to wasting water and your time in the morning, it causes an indirect energy loss which pushes up your energy bill.

The energy loss can be as high as 15 percent of your annual water heating costs. In the winter, all the room-temperature water that runs down the drain is replaced by cold incoming water. Your water heater must run longer just to warm that extra 9,000 gallons of wasted water.

There are several new, efficient demand kits that provide instant hot water using your existing water heater. You should be able to install even the most complicated demand-triggered kit yourself in an hour or two.

One kit uses a tiny high-volume pump located under the bathroom sink farthest from the water heater. This pump and an automatic self-closing valve connect the hot and cold water lines under the sink.

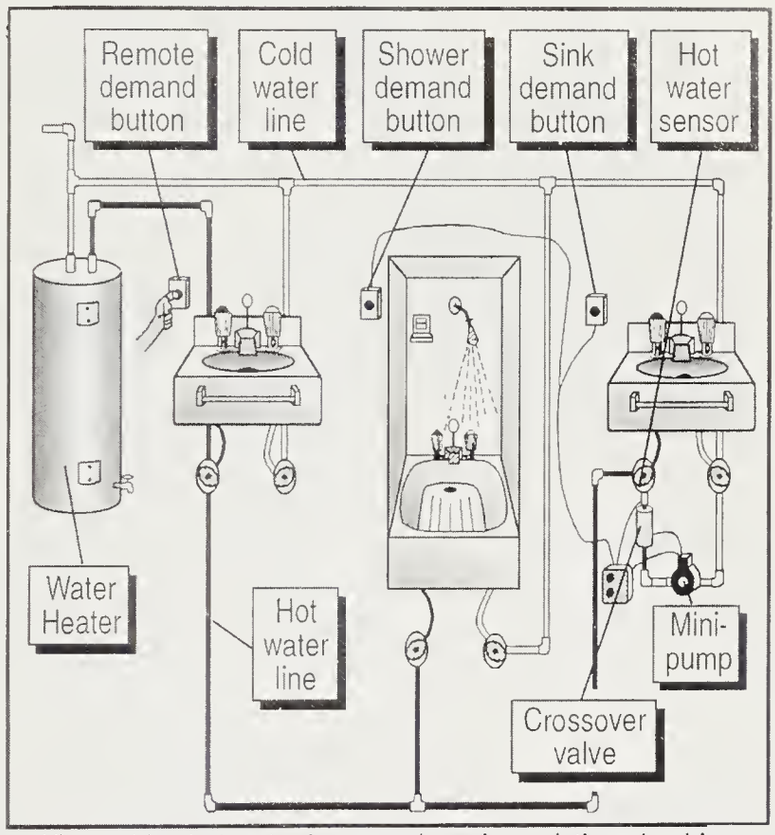
When you want hot water from the faucet, press a demand button mounted on the wall. This triggers the pump to start. It rapidly draws water from the hot water pipe under the sink and diverts it back to the water heater via the cold water inlet line — all through existing plumbing.

Within seconds, hot water reaches the sink. When a sensor detects hot water at the you turn on the hot water faucet. For instant hot water in other bathrooms, install wireless remote switches in them to trigger the pump to start

Another low-cost kit uses just a crossover valve under the sink. This works if the water heater is located on a floor below the problem bathroom. The natural upward flow of hot water keeps the water in the pipes warm.

Another option — installing a special continuous hot water circulation pump— requires adding a return pipe from the sink to the water heater. This is simplest to place into a newly constructed home, but can also be added in an existing home. Although this wastes circulating hot water in the pipes, the losses can be minimized by insulating the pipes. Installing a circulation pump with a 24-hour timer also reduces losses. Set it to circulate the hot water only at times when you need hot water frequently.

Write for Utility Bills Update No. 444 listing manufacturers of instant hot water demand pump kits, valves, continuous circulation pump / timers, installation instructions, prices, specifications and a chart showing daily hot water needs. Please include $2 and a business-size self-addressed stamped envelope. Send to James Dulley, Carolina Country, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244.



Kit provides hot water in seconds using existing plumbing

Q: With no lights on or appliances running, I notice that the wheel in my electric meter still spins pretty fast. Could the meter be bad and be recording too much usage?–Y.F.

A:Although it is possible that the electric meter is wrong, it is unlikely. modern home uses electrici- even when nothing is rned on.

The refrigerator could be the auto-defrost mode. The ectronic circuitry in your , VCR, microwave, or other uipment continuously uses ectricity. Many heat pumps ve crankcase heaters that ntinuously heat the refrig- ant and lubricants.

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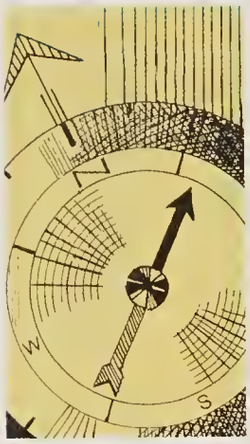
Here, There and Everywhere



August events.

1940s Radio Hour

Aug. 3-12, Blowing Rock

A musical recreation of an evening at an eccentric radio station broadcasting a live variety show at Christmas during the Second World War. Blowing Rock Stage Company, (704) 295-9627.

Carnival!

Aug. 10-12, Brevard

Clowns, bingo, Hogtown Squealers, John Linville Band, line dancing, Soul Recovery, the big-band Connetones. The thrilling 12 rides include 6 for kids. Art sale, a new polo shirt, pony rides, kids games, hospital information booth. At the Transylvania County Recreation Center, Sponsored by Transylvania Community Hospital. Call (704) 877-4777.

Jazz at Brevard

Aug. 12, Brevard

Featuring the Gary Burton Quartet, Jeanie Bryson, the USAir Jazz Orchestra and Benny Gandy & the Jazzmen. At the Brevard Music Center. Contact the Transylvania County Arts Council, (704) 884-2787.

Crepe Myrtle Festival

Aug. 12, Scotland Neck

Arts, crafts, food, games, children's rides, antique cars, tractors, entertainment and mini-race cars. Contact: Leonard Bunting, (919) 826-4737.

Tarheel Farm Toy Show

Aug. 12, Burlington

Over 125 tables of farm and farm-related toys, plus a toy auction. At the Ramada Inn Convention Center. Contact: Rick Murray, (910) 584-9829.

Shrimp Festival

Aug. 12-13, Sneads Ferry

Arts, crafts, military displays, clowns, live music and a shrimperoo. $3 per day or $5 for both days. Contact: Bernice Guthrie, (910) 327-4911.

Quilting Spree

Aug. 11-13, Young Harris, Ga.

Judged awards, guild boutique, donation quilt, vendors and door prizes. Sponsored by Misty Mountain Quilters' Guild. For information send a LSASE to Margaret Frizzell, 4588 Trinity Place, Blairsville, Ga. 30512.

Currituck Craft Fair

Aug. 12-13, Barco

At the Barco High School on Highway 158. Booth space rental is $40 and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact: Edith Pollard, (919) 232-3183.

Sunday Concert

Aug. 13, Blowing Rock

Features the Grandfather Mountain Highlanders (bagpipes). Show begins at 5 p.m. at Blowing Rock Memorial Park on Main Street. Contact: Susan Gragg, (704) 295-7851.

Strange Seafood

Aug. 17, Beaufort

Annual education program featuring exhibits, demonstrations and unusual seafood tasting. Tickets are $15. Contact: the North Carolina Maritime Museum, (919) 728-7317.

Rummage Sale

Aug. 18-19, Boone

One of the area's largest rummage sales featuring jewelry, books, antiques, clothes, appliances and furniture. For the Watauga Humane Society. Contact: Dot Fish, (704) 297-4294.

Quilt Show

Aug. 25-26, Cruso

The work of 50 crafters and artists from the local mountain area. A double Irish chain quilt will be raffled. Contact: Oveda Wheeler, (704) 235-8497.

Mt. Jefferson Challenge

Aug. 25-26, West Jefferson

Aug. 25: The Mt. Jefferson Challenge featuring a 3.5 mile cycling climb to the top of Mt. Jefferson. Aug. 26: The Brutal 100 featuring either a 100 mile or 50 mile route through Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga counties and Grayson County, Va. These are not races, and riders of all levels are invited to participate. Contact: Maude Calhoun, (910) 246-4483.

Bluegrass Festival

Aug. 26, Lenoir

Big bluegrass festival with art and craft showcase. Continental Divide headlines line-up with Strings of Five, Ric-O-Chet, Strictly Clean and Decent. Parking Lot Picking Competition, food court, kids corner, Caldwell County heritage displays. Downtown from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Call Main Street Lenoir, (704) 757-2177.

Old Time Fiddlers Convention

Aug. 26, Mountain City, Tenn.

Over $1,100 in prizes. Categories include old-time bands, old-time fiddle, banjo, guitar, mandolin, dobro, bass and more. Call (615) 727-9595.

Gatsby Day

Aug. 26, Reidsville

Travel back in time to experience the life of the 1920s with lawn games, ragtime music, classic cars, a roaring costume contest and more. Contact: Chinqua-Penn Plantation Foundation, (910) 349-4576.

Herb Festival

Aug. 26, Durham

Features a children's workshop, herbal presentations, traditional uses of herbs displays and other workshops. Plants, crafts and refreshments will be available for purchase. At the Duke Homestead. Contact: Edna Gaston, (919) 477-5498.

Artists Open Houses

Aug. 26-27 and Sept. 2-3, Blowing Rock

Exhibition and sale of paintings, fiber, clay, silk wearables, jewelry, marbling, wood. At Artists Alley from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call (704) 295-7246.

Cotton Field Day

Aug. 31, Scotland Neck

On-farm tests and demonstrations, agency exhibits. U.S. Rep. Eva Clayton, N.C. Commissioner Jim Graham and others. At the Edwards Cotton Gin. Call (919) 733-4216.

Littleton/Lake Gaston Festiva

Sept. 2, Littleton

Antique car parade and show, live entertainment, food, crafts, souvenirs and children's games and rides. Admission is free. Contact: Betty Harris, Rt. 1 Box 574, Littleton, N.C. 27850.

Ham Radio Convention

Sept. 2-3, Shelby

Amateur radio operators convention, plus computer exhibition. Begins at 6 a.m. both days at Cleveland County Fairgrounds. Contact Barbara Elliot, (704) 538-7919.

Bethware Community Fair

Sept. 4-9, Kings Mountain

Carnival Rides, games, petting zoo, puppet show, exhibits, food. At Bethware School from 6-11 p.m. Contact Glenn M. Hicks, (704) 739-7005.

Antique Engine

Sept. 9-10, Dunn

Rhodes Pond Antique Engine Festival has hit and miss engines, a shingle mill, models, tractors, fishing and camping, arts and crafts, a hay baler, steam engines, a tackle shop, an old general store and contests and prizes. Contact: Jerry Honeycutt (910) 980-1039.

Glenn Causey, begins his 40th season as Daniel Boone in "Horn in the West".

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October issue.....August 25
November issue.....September 25
December issue.....October 25

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by Charles Joyner

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Use the code key below to fill in the blanks.

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d e f h i k w n o r s m

2 A deacon was given the job of painting the outside of his little church. To increase his profit, he decided to water the paint. He had just finished a shoddy job when the heavens opened and the rains came. The paint ran, and what looked to the deacon to be handwriting appeared on the wall:

8 1 7 0 3 5 9, and 9 2 3 5 5 6 4 6 8 1!

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _!

The deacon knew in his heart what the message said. Can you decipher it with the help of the code key below?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 =
a e h i m n o p r t

Answers on page 30.

Looking Up

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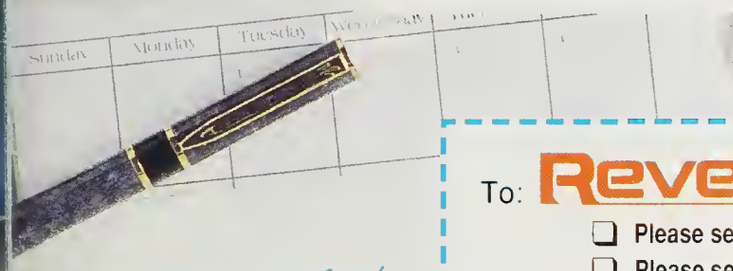

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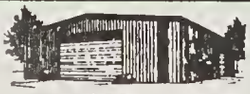

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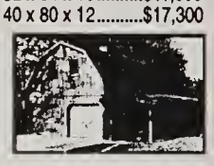

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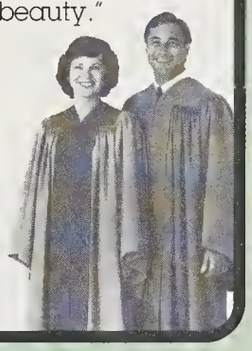

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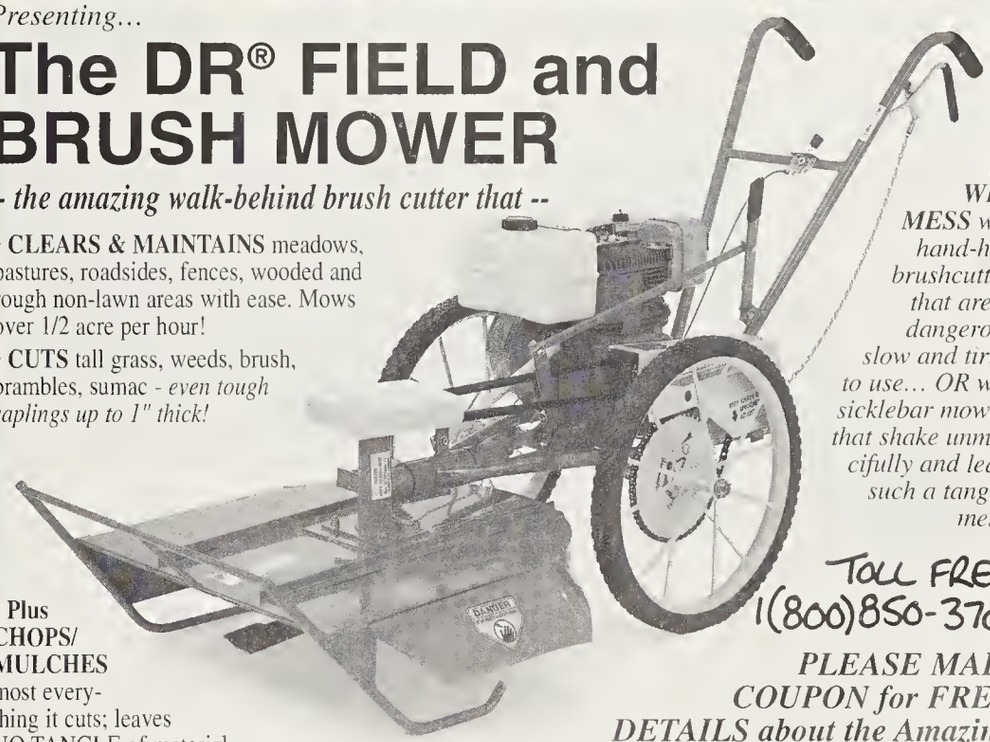

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Hank's Gardening Guide

by Hank Smith

August is a better time for planning than for planting.

Now's the time to get a head start on getting the garden ready for fall. Prepare beds for fall planting. Till or spade each area, adding complete fertilizer and organic matter.

Roses

An August pruning of roses can be very beneficial. Remove dead and weak growth. Tall vigorous plants should be cut back to about three feet for better fall flower production. Then apply a complete fertilizer and water thoroughly. Spray to control insects and diseases.

Lawn care

If your lawn produces a heavy thatch, or grass clippings exceed two-and-a-half inches in length, bag and remove the clippings. Otherwise, leave clippings on the lawn to provide nutrients as they decompose. If you plan to let clippings remain, the grass should be dry before you mow. Wet clippings will form clumps that are unsightly and detrimental to the lawn.

Asparagus

Fertilize the elite of vegetables: asparagus. Late in August, apply three pounds of a complete fertilizer to each 100 square feet of soil surface. The roots and crowns will store the food for next year's crop.

Vegetables

As soon as summer vegetables have been harvested, set out transplants of broccoli, cabbage, collards and kale. Sow seed of English peas, spinach, lettuce, turnips, edible-podded peas, carrots and radishes.

Chrysanthemums

To produce larger flowers on standard "football" mums, pinch out all side flower buds. Leave only one-to-three buds to a stem. Keep plants staked, watered and fertilized on a regular basis.

Give hedges final pruning

Late summer is the time to give hedges their final clipping for the season. If cut back too late in the season, there is the risk of inducing tender new growth that may be injured by cold weather.

Zinnea

Bedding plants

Sow seed of annual flowering plants such as marigolds, portulaca, zinnias, and celosia fo fall bloom. Stake tall-growing annuals to prevent damage from strong winds. If petunias have grown tall, leggy and floppy, cut them back severely. This encourages new growth an an abundance of fall flowers.

Landscape planning

The first step is to identify problems as well as opportunities for development. Ask yourself: Do outdoor living areas have enough shade in summer? Is the west side of the hous shaded in the afternoons? Are there unsightly views in need of screening? Are there pleasant views in the distance that need framing so the become a part of the overall picture? Are there large-growing and fast-growing shrubs in the foundation plantings? - Are there shady areas of the lawn in which groundcovers would complete the soil cover? Are there trees or shrubs that just don't grow well in your area?

Cultivate for weed control

Vegetable gardens, rose beds and flower bo ders require weeding during the summer. Although mulching is a help, some weeds always come through.

In some cases, chemical weed control can b used, and in some situations pulling by hand advisable. If you're opposed to the use of chemicals, and weeds are growing so close to desired plants that pulling them may damage the roots of the "good" plants, the best solution will be cultivation.

The most effective means of cultivation is scraping back and forth beneath the soil surface.

If a standard hoe is used, proceed in a forward motion, advancing toward the weeds. B killing weeds before they set seed, you'll redu the problem next year.

In areas of no weed problem, the bed will benefit from a shallow cultivation. Water wil not run off due to crusted soil surface. This al applies to potted plants.

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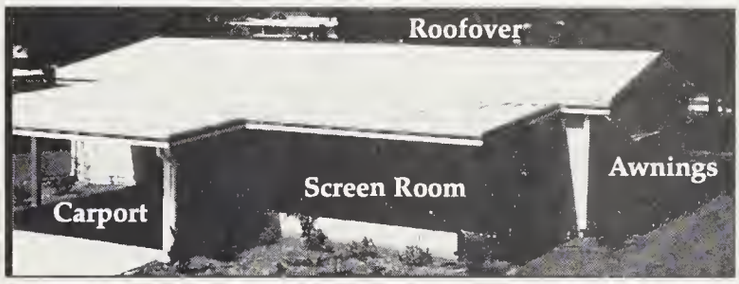

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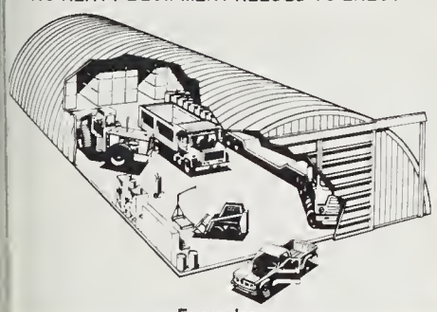

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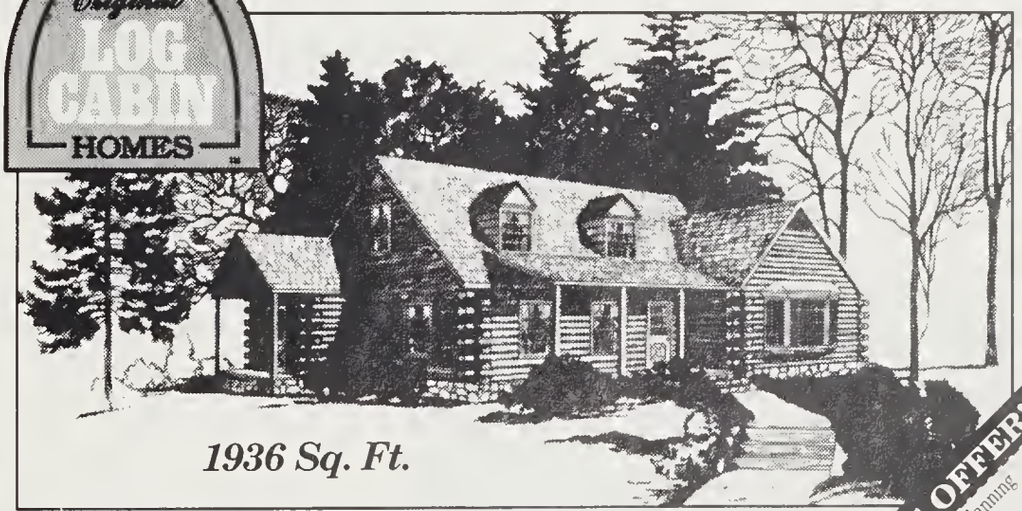

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Journal

by Owen Bishop

Project helps students gain self-esteem and learn the "message of the workplace."

High-risk students show their stuff in Davie County Bright Ideas projec

Malena Didenko, a teacher at Davie High School in Mocksville, was prepared to take some flak from her "high-risk" students when she described the class project she wanted them to carry out. And she got plenty of it.

"You've *got* to be kidding!" said one.

"Now you've *really* lost your mind!" said another.

They couldn't imagine themselves working together on such a project: Building and selling *a doll house*, of all things!

However, Mrs. Didenko was quite serious —serious enough, in fact, to apply for a Bright Ideas grant to finance the project. The grant program, which is sponsored by North Carolina's electric cooperatives and the Carolina Electric Cooperatives network, was seeking proposals for innovative instructional projects for the 1994-95 school year.

"You'll never get any money to do that," said one student. "Besides, we'd never be able to build a doll house."

"Yes, you can," the teacher replied. "I'm a middle-aged mother, and I did it. If you can read, you can do anything. So I know you can do it."

The project called for the ninth and tenth grade students to build a doll house from a kit and then sell it, and take a field trip with the proceeds. It would give the students a chance to learn the value of teamwork and to feel "a sense of achievement and self-worth, and to become 'positive' problem-solvers," Mrs. Didenko wrote in her grant application. "These students will channel their energies to produce a product, market this product and be rewarded for a job well done. They will be learning society's message of the workplace."

Robin Fergusson

Davie High School students involved with the doll house included (from left) Brandon Rose, Matt Allen and Clifton Redmon.

Despite the students' initial resistance, they quickly bridged cultural and racial gaps to work on the project as a team — once it was awarded a $500 grant from Crescent Electric Membership Corporation, Statesville.

It was one of 342 projects awarded Bright Ideas grants in the program's first year of operation. (For details about another Bright Ideas project and plans for the program's second round of grants, see story, pages 12-13.)

The students, including a few from Avis Arnold-Foster's class, assigned the project's various chores based on who would be most effective at a given task. Some proved to be better at hands-on activities in building the doll house while others made their strongest contribution in promoting the raffle. They sold 166 tickets, raising enough money for a day trip to Carowinds.

The winner of the raffle was the school's media specialist Janet Barnes, who was delighted to present the doll house to her four-year-old daughter Cassie.

Mrs. Didenko, who is a consumer-membe of Crescent EMC, said she and her assistant Tammy Langdon were undaunted by the stu dents' grousing at the outset of the project.

"We knew they would come through. They're just big pussycats who think they have to act tough. We love 'em —and they know that. It turned out that they showed u stuff we never knew they had."

In a letter describing how the project was carried out, Mrs. Didenko recalled these high lights of the students' experience:

- **One student could barely read and write but he was able to "analyze angles and somehow made the door to the doll house work so it would open and shut." Another student couldn't sit still long enough to finish a piece of furniture, but he was able to convince people —with his million-dollar smile— to buy a ticket for a chance to win the finished product.**
- **Lobbyists are not born – they are educated. We had told the students all decisions had to be made as a group. What color to paint the shutters? They would get each other off in a corner, and we would hear parts of the conversation: "Man, brown is going to look stupid! Vote for red!."**
- **In addition, the students formed groups in unexpected ways: "The 'redneck' and the 'rapper' joined forces — each admitting to his weaknesses and strengths. 'Man, you're good at staining, but I'm The Daddy when it comes to painting. So you stain and I'll paint, and together we'll get this job done!"**

Now, Mrs. Didenko added, "the doll ho is out of our room and in the bedroom of a four-year-old little girl. We were all ready t say goodbye. Ready to have our classroom back without pieces of wood, little cans of paint, scraps of fabric and bottles of glue.

"Then, somebody pipes up and says, 'S what are we going to build next year?'"

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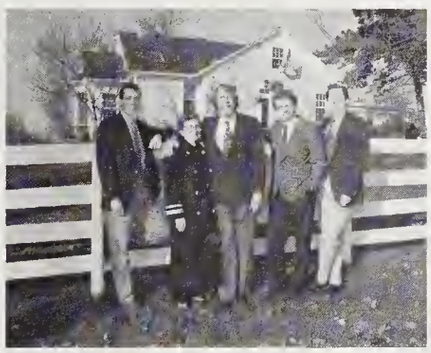

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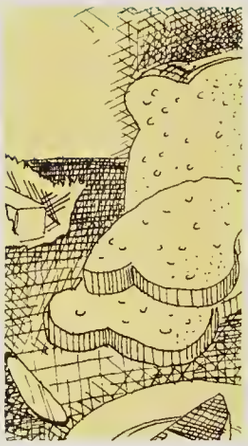

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Submitted by Patty Pryce, Kill Devil Hills

Green tomatoes, cut into ½-inch circles with a serrated knife
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oil for frying
salt and pepper to taste
(Amount of ingredients will depend on number of green tomatoes being used.)

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Unscramble It!

from page 22

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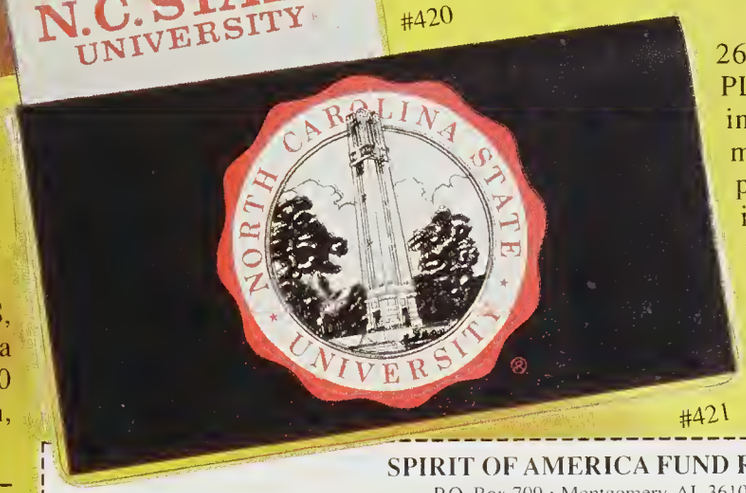

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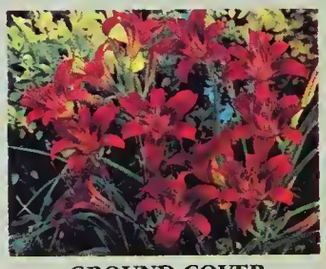

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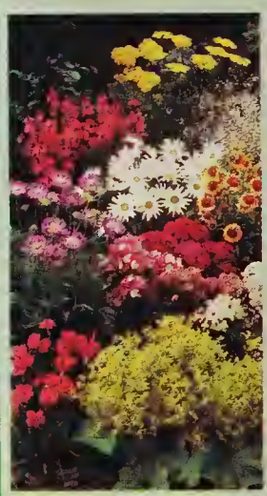

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